

REMARKS

Amendments to claims 1 and 8 are for the purpose of clarifying what Applicants regard as the invention. No new matter has been added.

I. Claim rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,132,425 (Gough). Applicants respectfully note that in order to sustain a rejection under § 102, each of the claimed elements must be found, either expressly or inherently, in the cited reference.

Claim 1 recites a first ablation device having a first structure and a plurality of electrodes, and a second ablation device having a second structure and a plurality of electrodes, *wherein the first structure and the second structure are independently moveable relative to each other*. Claim 8 recites similar limitations. Gough does not disclose or suggest the above limitations. Rather, Gough discloses an insulation sleeve 18 carrying a first array of electrodes 16, and an introducer 14 carrying a second array of electrodes 16 (Figure 8). Notably, the insulation sleeve 18 and the introducer 14 (which may be considered as first and second structures) are coupled to each other in a coaxial manner, and therefore, are not *independently moveable relative to each other*. For at least the foregoing reason, claims 1 and 8, and their respective dependent claims, are believed allowable over Gough.


CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, all claims are believed allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, please contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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